

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 158 - HB 182

February 9, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (003723): Revises when disclosures of contracts, fees, commissions, or any other forms of compensation for consulting services or campaign services must be reported to the Tennessee Ethics Commission (Commission), and when annual reports to the Governor and Tennessee General Assembly (TGA) must be made regarding the administration and enforcement of laws by the Commission. Expands the disclosure requirements to apply to contracts for the provision of campaign services to a political campaign committee attempting to influence the result of a state election. Removes the requirement that certain disclosures are sent by the Commission to the Registry of Election Finance (Registry). Requires disclosures to be updated within five days of the initial contract date in each subsequent year if services continue to be provided under a contract for consulting or campaign services beyond 12 months.

Authorizes the Commission to request opinions from the Attorney General and Reporter on legal issues that may be presented in a request for a formal advisory opinion. Revises multiple provisions regarding the Commission's authority to issue formal advisory opinions and the issuance of informal opinions.

Requires all public offices to notify the Commission of the primary person responsible for administering and enforcing the ethical standards by January 1, 2024. Requires the Commission to notify both of the Speakers of the TGA and the Comptroller of any entity that is not in compliance by January 31 each year.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The proposed revisions regarding disclosures of contracts, fees, commissions, or any other forms of compensation for consulting services or campaign services will not significantly impact the Commission's or Registry's operations.
- The Attorney General and Reporter can provide opinions, when requested by the Commission, on legal issues presented in a request for a formal advisory opinion to the Commission utilizing existing resources without a significant increase in state expenditures.

- The requirement that all public offices have a primary person responsible for administering and enforcing ethical standards does not require offices to hire any additional employees; any fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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